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January 9, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

Much has been said about this lawsuit between the Department of Justice and Microsoft. Now that it has reached a settlement stage, it is my hope that we can put this entire unfortunate episode behind us.

There is a public perception that Microsoft may well have been a bit too protective of both its software and its use by its OEM customers. This may be true, but the terms of the settlement adequately address this. OEMs are well-protected by this settlement, since the settlement requires Microsoft to design Windows so that OEMs can easily reconfigure Windows to add access features to non-Microsoft software. They are also protected by the new licensing arrangement.

It is time to turn our attentions to more relevant and important issues facing us today. It's time to put this behind us.

Sincerely

Greg Marone
IT Director